**PATENT** 

373/.

DEC 0 1 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: ETTER

**Examiner: Roberts, Paul A** 

**Group Art Unit: 3731** 

In re Application of:

**HEINZ ETTER et al.** 

Appl. No.: 09/929,186

Filed: August 14, 2001

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

P.O. Box 1450

For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

RECEIVED

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION dated September 23, 2003

**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700** 

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on November 24, 2003.

(Date)

URSULA B. DAY

Name of Registered Representative

lan Selle

Nov. 24. 2003

SIR:

This communication is in response to the Office Action, dated September 23, 2003, having a shortened period for response terminating October 23, 2003.

The Commissioner is hereby petitioned to extend the period for response to above-referenced Official Action by ONE month until November 24, 2003. Accompanying this amendment is the appropriate fee of \$110.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a).

Please amend the above-entitled application as follows:

1E/03/E003 325MRH1 00000079 09929186

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